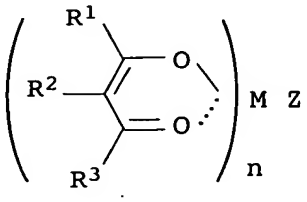
Abstract

A process is described for preparing polyoxymethylene by contacting a formaldehyde source with a catalyst of the formula I



(I)

where

M is TiO, ZrO, HfO, VO, CrO_2, MoO_2, WO_2, MnO_2, ReO_2, Fe, Ru, Co, Rh, Ir, Ni, Pd, Pt, Cu, Zn, Cd, Hg, Sn, SnO or PbO;

R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently a radical which is selected from H, alkyl, aryl and aralkyl and the radical may be partly or fully halogenated;

Z is an anion; and

n is 1 or 2.